

SECTION 11

ASPHALT TILE FLOOR

11-01 SCOPE: The work covered by this section of the specifications consists in furnishing all plant, labor, equipment, appliances and materials not furnished by the Government and in performing all operations in connection with the installation of asphalt tile, complete, in strict accordance with this section of the specifications and applicable drawings, and subject to the terms and conditions of the contract.

11-02 APPLICABLE SPECIFICATIONS: The following Federal Specifications, of the issues listed below but referred to thereafter by basic designation only, form a part of this specification:

P-W-151a	Wax, Floor; Water Emulsion
SS-T-306b	Tile; Asphalt

11-03 GENERAL: Asphalt tile shall be installed in the spaces indicated on the drawings. All materials shall be stored at a minimum temperature of 75 degrees F for at least 24 hours before installation. A temperature of at least 75 degrees F shall be maintained in the spaces where asphalt tile is being installed for at least 48 hours before, during and 48 hours after installation. Adequate ventilation shall be provided to take off moisture and volatile fumes. Unless otherwise specified, all materials and methods used shall be in strict accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturer of the asphalt tile. All materials shall be delivered to the job in the manufacturer's original unopened containers with the manufacturer's brand and name clearly marked thereon.

11-04 MATERIALS:

a. Asphalt tile shall be as manufactured by The Tile-Tex Division of The Flintkote Co., Armstrong Cork Co., Mastic Tile Corp., or by any other approved American manufacturers, and shall conform to Federal Specification SS-T-306, with the following additional requirements:

(1) Grease Resistant: In addition to the requirements of Federal Specification SS-T-306, asphalt tile shall be insoluble in all animal and vegetable fats at normal room temperatures, and shall successfully pass the following tests: Two tiles, cut to 6 x 6 inches, shall be totally immersed in pure leaf lard, and two in vegetable oil, for a period of 24 hours at a temperature of 77 degrees F, plus or minus 2 degrees. At the end of the 24-hour period the tiles shall be removed from the lard and from the oil and wiped off with a dry cloth. If the surface of the tiles have become appreciably softened, the tiles will be considered to have failed the test. In determining whether or not the surface of the tile has become softened, the tiles shall be lightly scraped with a spatula blade, and when so scraped, if the surface is readily removed from the body of the tile, this shall be taken as sufficient evidence of softening.

(2) Floors: Colors shall match samples approved by the Contracting Officer and shall be from color groups indicated on the drawings. Floor asphalt tile shall be 9 x 9 inches by 3/16 inch thick.

(3) Base shall be sufficiently flexible to allow for slight irregularities in walls and partitions. Special one-piece internal and external corner sections shall be provided for all right-angle corners. Color of base shall match samples approved by the Contracting Officer. Unless otherwise specified, base shall be an on-top-type-cove and 4-inches high.

b. Primer for asphalt tile shall be cut-back-type. Cut-back-type primer shall be a thin liquid composed of an asphaltic base and a suitable light volatile solvent, made specially for use with asphalt tile, and weighing approximately 10 pounds per gallon.

c. Cement for asphalt tile shall be cut-back-type. Cement shall be composed of an asphaltic base and suitable volatile solvents made specially for use as an adhesive for bedding and fastening asphalt tile to subfloors, and shall be of a heavy consistency that can be applied and effectively spread with a toothed trowel.

d. Cove-base cement shall be a semi-waterproof cement of a type specially made for use in the application of asphalt-tile bases.

e. Wax shall conform to Federal Specification P-1-151.

11-05 SAMPLES of materials listed below shall be submitted to the Contracting Officer for approval before purchase and/or delivery to the site.

Asphalt tile, 3 pieces of all sizes and colors specified.
Asphalt tile base, 3 pieces of size and color specified
Primer, one quart
Cement, cut-back, one quart
Cove-base cement, one pint
Wax, one pint

11-06 INSTALLATION:

a. Priming coat: A coat of cut-back-type primer shall be well worked into the surface of the concrete with stiff brushes or a straight-edged steel trowel using the minimum quantity that will assure covering the complete surface with a nonabsorptive base. Primer shall be allowed to become thoroughly dry.

b. Cement: The cement shall be applied to the floor with a notched steel trowel and allowed to set up until the surface is tacky (30 minutes to 3 hours). The notches in the trowel shall be not over 1/16 inch deep and spaced 3/16 inch on centers. The notches shall be maintained at the specified depth, and when reduced by wear, shall be removed with a fine V-shaped file.

c. Tile: When the cement is sufficiently dry, the asphalt tile shall be installed in accordance with the design layout herein specified. Tile shall be laid in such a manner that the entire under surface will be securely bonded in place. Asphalt tile shall be laid out in a square pattern symmetrical about the center lines of each room, space or panel.

Tile layout shall eliminate cut tile to the greatest extent possible. Cut-tile misfits shall be replaced with properly cut tile. Tile shall be tightly fitted so that each tile is in contact with the surrounding tiles and all joints are in proper alignment. The graining in alternate jasper or marble-lized tile shall be reversed.

d. Base: The base shall be secured to the walls and partitions with cove-base cement. All joints shall be tight and the base throughout its entire length shall have its top and bottom edges in firm contact with the walls and floor.

11-07 CLEANING AND WAXING: Floor and base tiles shall be cleaned thoroughly of all cement spots, dirt and other soiling and shall be left in a condition satisfactory for waxing. Spots shall be removed by means of a putty knife and steel wool, or by a cloth moistened with a neutral soap of a type approved by the manufacturer of the tiles. The use of solvents and wet mopping and washing is prohibited. One coat of wax shall be applied at the time designated by the Contracting Officer and shall be polished with mechanical or hand buffers.